HoosierRx Drug Card



Senior Health Insurance Information Program

Ask SHIIP

Doris Higgins Regional Program Manager

Q: I received a letter notifying me that I will no longer be receiving a refund check for my prescription costs from HoosierRx, but instead will need to use the HoosierRx Drug Card. How is this different from other discount cards?

A: HoosierRx is Indiana's prescription drug program for low-income seniors. HoosierRx covers all drugs, which require prescriptions including insulin. Since its inception in the fall of 2000, the state of Indiana has subsidized over \$7.5 million in prescription costs.

Until now, HoosierRx has been a refund program. Hoosiers who applied, and qualified, received a refund of 50% of their prescription expenditures up to a cap determined by their income. You had to pay for your prescriptions first and then get your money back.

HoosierRx now uses the HoosierRx Drug Card. Since you are one of the 16,500 seniors who are currently enrolled, you should receive your HoosierRx Drug Card by October. At the drug store, you will receive 50% off the cost of medications up to a yearly cap. Caps on subsidies are set at \$500, \$750, or \$1,000 a year depending on your income.

HoosierRx is not a discount card; it is a subsidy to help you pay for your prescriptions. However, one of the benefits of the new system is that you can continue to use your card and receive a discounted price on your prescriptions after you no longer qualify for the subsidy.

For your friends, neighbors and family who have not applied to HoosierRx, encourage them to call for an application:

HoosierRx 1-866-267-4679

To qualify for HoosierRx they must be:

- ✓ At least 65 years old
- ✓ Not covered under prescription drug insurance, Medicaid, or Medicaid with a spend-down (Note: A discount card is **not** insurance)

- ✓ An Indiana resident for at least 90 days
- ✓ Receiving an income of \$997 or less a month if single, or an income of \$1344 or less if married

Income levels are determined by your net income. Counting toward this income is the actual dollar amount of your social security check, plus any pensions, plus any interest and dividends from investments, plus any other income. HoosierRx does not consider your assets.

If you do not qualify for this program, other help may be available. You can call SHIIP for the free booklet:

Finding Help With Prescriptions 1-800-452-4800

Address your questions to:

Ask SHIIP 311 W. Washington Street Ste. 300 Indianapolis, IN 46204 1-800-452-4800 Or higgins@qtm.net

SHIIP is a free, unbiased counseling program provided by the Indiana State Department of Insurance. For assistance, call your local SHIIP site to make an appointment or call the state office at 1-800-452-4800 to obtain a list of local SHIIP sites.